GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1812
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2016
Support to Sri Lankan Refugees
Senthilnathan Shri PR.;Sundaram Shri P.R.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to provide adequate socio-economic support to the Sri Lankan refugees in India, particularly in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the outcome of India''s efforts in the last three years for the socio-economic development of Displaced Tamils and the orphaned kith and kin of people killed in Sri Lanka in 2009;

(c) the diplomatic and administrative steps taken by the Government to respect directives of the United Nations in the matter; and

(d) the details of support provided by India to Sri Lanka in the last three years in various fields?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI M. J. AKBAR)

(a) For registered Sri Lankan refugees, Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) has extended benefits of all its welfare schemes to refugees staying in various camps in Tamil Nadu, including free education up to Class XII, increased monthly allowance to all registered refugees and their children, dry ration from PDS system, laptops, computers, books, bus passes, etc. Ministry of Home Affairs also releases funds to Government of Tamil Nadu for providing relief assistance to the Sri Lankan refugees.

(b) India is engaged in implementation of multiple developmental assistance projects in Sri Lanka, which are of benefit to the Tamils returning to Sri Lanka.

(c) India has supported efforts to preserve Sri Lanka's character as a multi-ethnic, multi-lingual and multi-religious society in which all citizens, including the Sri Lankan Tamil community, can live in equality, safety and harmony, and prosper and fulfill their aspirations within a united Sri Lanka.

(d) Indian developmental projects are in the sectors such as infrastructure including railways & housing, health, education, sports facilities, livelihood support and vocational training, agriculture, fisheries, handicrafts, water supply etc.